

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MATTERS

summer issue, 2004

First Business CERT Class Graduates

On Thursday, May 13th, twelve employees of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development completed their Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) review and simulation to become the first Alexandria business to complete CERT training. ASCD is a non-profit educational association comprised of 200 employees. The CERT participants were members of ASCD's Safety Team and are involved in company disaster recovery plans. Safety Team co-chair, Leon Hayes pointed out that this was a great opportunity for the Team to augment their services, not only to the Association, but also to the surrounding community.

The ASCD team descended on the burn building after their review and participated in simulations that included light rescue, triage, and fire fighting. They had hands-on instruction with fire extinguishers at this time. CERT member Diane Parker-Mullens, an employee of ASCD, assisted in the simulation by playing a victim.

ASCD scheduled the CERT training for five weeks, 4 hours every Thursday. They provided their own equipment and Richard Sisler, Director of Public Education, Alexandria Fire Department, provided the instructors.

Completing the CERT training for ASCD were: Monica Barnette, Sandra Claxton, Percy Edwards, Gillian Fitzpatrick, Michael Garity, Troy Gooden, Leon Hayes, Debbie Howerton, Isis Jenkins, Devin Johnson, Perry Katz and Carol Wojcik. They are joined by co-workers Shawn Martin and Diane Parker-Mullens, who completed CERT training through their communities.

Public Broadcasting System is the Next CERT Business Class

Twelve members of PBS's management team are currently engaged in CERT training. O'Brien McKinley, Director of PBS Technical Operations working with the Alexandria Fire Department in conducting classes. McKinley is a graduate of the Virginia CERT instruction program and has a background in EMS. All training modules are held at PBS headquarters at Braddock Place.

Third Alexandria CERT Class Graduates

On Saturday, May 22nd, 17 members of the third CERT class in Alexandria completed their CERTification. Graduating with this class were: Amanda Babcock, Carmen Brenis, Mario C. Rodriguez, Stanford Dade, Glenda Davis, Cate Feeser, Fritz Fleming, Eda Hogan, Joyce Hylton, Lisa Marie Cheney, John Miranda, Patricia Myers Hayer, Greg Ormsby, David P. Cheney, Monique Perez, Brenda Smith and Linda Thomas.

Out and About... CERT Members in Action

Phil Mullens assisted with fire extinguisher training for the third CERT class.

Margaret French and Moira Gentry-Moore assisted with the CERT review and simulation on Saturday, May 22nd.

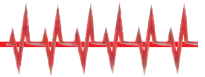


Angel Gonzalez, Phil Mullens and Mary Ursitti participated with members of the Alexandria Be Safe Coalition at the Saint Mary's Spring Fling on Sunday, May 23, by providing information on fire and life safety and bike helmets.

Diana Demings staffed an information table at George Mason Elementary School during its annual Health Fair and distributed Risk Watch Student workbooks to the students.

The fourth CERT class, comprised of 20 people, is scheduled to graduate June 26.





CERT members participated in Alexandria's St. Patrick's Day Parade. They roused the general public by handing out promotional shirts and brochures and by engaging them in conversation. Not only was this helpful for public awareness, but it also helped to solidify CERT's relationship with the State Citizen Corps, which partnered with CERT for this event.



Congratulations!

Alexandria City Council recognized all CERT members with a proclamation on June 9, 2004. Several CERT members attended the Council's declaration, which included the following words of praise: "It is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of CERT volunteers who have given their time to receive this training [and] can help save and sustain lives following a disaster....Alexandrians will benefit from the knowledge and skills of these trained individuals daily and during disasters." In addition, the Mayor declared that he encourages all members of the community to participate in CERT training. Your city values you—keep up the good work!

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Where do You Belong?

Wondering where your unique skills and background might fit into CERT? Contact your local leader and ask for a list of available positions. To date, CERT has assigned Donald Smith as a resource technician, responsible for organizing emergency equipment. Harriet McGuire and Margaret French are communication technicians, developing ways to communicate during emergencies. Diane Parker-Mullens and Rita Tiefert are CERT newsletter writers in partnership with the Citizen Corps liaison. Outreach specialists include Charmaine Ingleton, Patsieann Misiti, Frank Ballenger, Katherine Doster and Donald Smith, who interact with community organizations and individuals through media and face-to-face communication. For more information, call 703.838.5594.



Thank You and Farewell

Sharon Halstead is moving on to enhance her career. We wish her well and thank her for all her efforts and support in getting the Alexandria CERT Program up and running!

For CERT information or details on
Emergency Management, call **703.838.5594**

CALENDAR

Contact your local CERT leader to volunteer at these events.

08.03

Tuesday, August 3
5 pm - 9 pm
National Night Out
Various City locations



Saturday, August 7
10 am - 2 pm
Friendship Firehouse
Birthday Celebration
107 South Alfred Street

08.07



Saturday, October 2
10 am - 6 pm
Art on the Avenue
Mt. Vernon Ave.



10.02